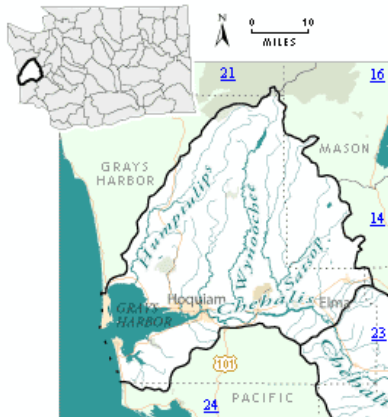


## Lower Chehalis Basin - WRIA #22

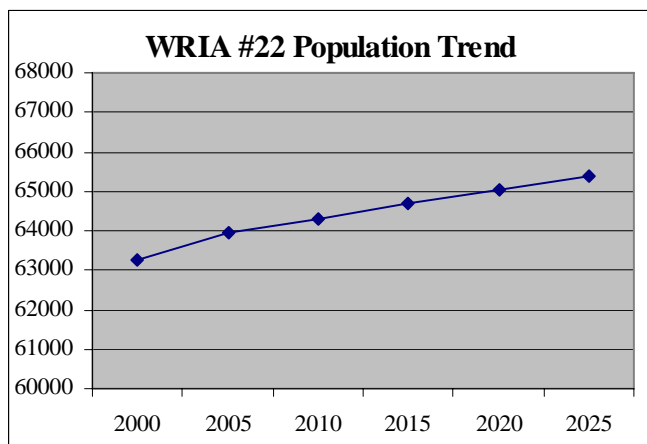


### Watershed Description

**WRIA #22** encompasses about 940,005 acres. Bordering the Pacific Ocean, this watershed is part of the Coast Range and Puget Lowland ecoregions. Average rainfall is 98 inches per year. This basin contains a marine estuary, terraces, sand dunes, and spits, and is characterized by low, rolling hills and undulating glacial drift plains. Soils are typically deep silt loam to gravelly sandy loam. Potential natural vegetation is western hemlock, western red cedar, and Douglas-fir. The mean low/high temperatures are 31/46° in winter and 50/76° in summer.

### Population

There are approximately 63,611 people living in the Lower Chehalis Basin. The primary population centers are Aberdeen, Hoquiam, and Montesano. The majority of people live in unincorporated areas. The population graph reflects the combined projected population of those counties located within the watershed (Office of Financial Management population projections).



Counties	% of basin
Grays Harbor	84%
Mason	15%
Pacific	<1%
Thurston	<1%
Jefferson	<1%

#### Tribal Reservation Lands in WRIA #22

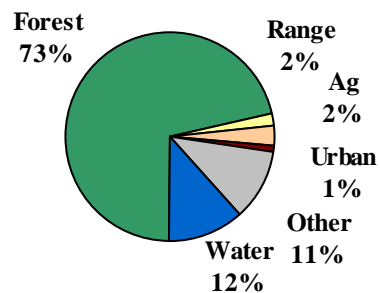
none

**Land ownership** for WRIA #22 includes federal, state, local, and private lands. Data was derived from the Public Lands Survey by Washington Department of Natural Resources (DNR). The sum of public lands subtracted from the calculated WRIA acreage yielded total private lands.

Land Ownership	Acres	Proportion
Federal	127,817	13.6%
State	26,324	2.8%
Local	35,078	3.7%
Tribal	0	0%
Private	750,784	79.9%

**Land use** in the Lower-Chehalis Basin is mainly forestry and water related uses. The general type of known land-use activities<sup>1</sup> within the watershed is graphed according to the percentage of its occurrence.

#### Land use in the Lower Chehalis



<sup>1</sup> Category "other" may include perennial ice/snow, bare rock/sand/clay, quarries/strip mines/gravel pits, transitional, barren, and/or wetland areas.

**The primary towns and cities in WRIA #22 include** Aberdeen, Hoquiam, Montesano, Westport, and Ocean Shores.

### **Legislative and Congressional Districts**

To determine your region's legislative or congressional district, see:

<http://www1.leg.wa.gov/DistrictFinder/Default.aspx>

To determine **Latitude/Longitude coordinates**, see:

<http://www.topozone.com/>

(Make sure you set the button on the bottom of the page to D/M/S - hold the cursor over a spot on the map and the coordinates show at the bottom of the screen.)

Several federal programs refer to watersheds according to their Hydrological Unit Code (HUC). To learn more about your watershed and determine which **HUC** your town or county is located in, see:

<http://water.usgs.gov/wsc/>

## **Water Quality**

### **Water Quality Assessment**

The statewide Water Quality Assessment categorizes waterbody segments that have water quality data available. The Simple Query Tool and interactive mapping tool allow you to search for specific categories, water bodies, pollutant parameters and other information, in whatever combination you choose. **WRIA #22** has eight (8) known Category 5 (impaired) water bodies.

To view the Water Quality Assessment, use the Simple Query Tool.

<http://apps.ecy.wa.gov/wats/WATSOBEHome.asp>

To view the Water Quality Assessment by Category, choose the Category (1 – 5) you are interested in from the drop down box. To view it by Water Resource Inventory Resource Area (WRIA), choose the WRIA number you are interested in from the drop down box.

Use the Interactive Mapping Tool to see a graphic representation of the Water Quality Assessment. This is a Geographic Information System (GIS) application that helps you find waters you are interested in and information about problems in that water body.

<http://apps.ecy.wa.gov/wgawa/viewer.htm>

## **Domestic Water Supply**

**WRIA #22** has several community water systems that use surface water sources. For further information regarding water supplies, see:

<http://www.doh.wa.gov/ehp/dw/default.htm>

## Salmonid Stock Status

Good water quality is important to help salmon survive and thrive. To find out which salmon species are listed as threatened or endangered in a region, see:

<http://www.governor.wa.gov/gsro/regions/map.htm>

## Commercial and Recreational Shellfish Growing Areas

**Commercial shellfish** growing areas are classified by the Washington State Department of Health as either: *Approved*, *Conditionally Approved*, *Restricted*, or *Prohibited*.

For the most up-to-date information about shellfish area designations, see:

<http://www.doh.wa.gov/ehp/sf/grow.htm>

**Recreational shellfish** closures are determined by the Department of Health and local health jurisdiction; for information contact your county or health district or see:

<http://www.doh.wa.gov/ehp/sf/local.htm>

## TMDLs and Other Watershed-Based Plans

For information about Total Maximum Daily Loads (**TMDLs**) in your area, see:

<http://www.ecy.wa.gov/programs/wq/tmdl/>

To learn more about **watershed planning** in Washington State, see:

<http://www.ecy.wa.gov/watershed/index.html>

For **funding applicants**, other useful links can be found at:

[http://www.ecy.wa.gov/programs/wq/funding/index\\_2.html](http://www.ecy.wa.gov/programs/wq/funding/index_2.html)